

WEATHER
Tomorrow cloudy,
moderate south-
west winds.

EXPLOSION INVESTIGATIONS STARTED; EXPECT THAT MANY INJURED WILL DIE

OIL PROBE TO BE RESUMED TOMORROW

War Department Experts to
Be Called Before the
Investigators

SEEK MORE TELEGRAMS

Exchanged Between McLean
and Employees of the
Washington Post

WASHINGTON, March 2.—Cipher
experts of the War Department who
have been translating code messages
found in the McLean telegrams will
be called first tomorrow when the
senate oil committee resumes its
public hearings.

Senator Walsh, Democrat, Mon-
tana, chief prosecutor in the inquiry
said today that the government experts
did not differ materially from the
paraphrases furnished the commit-
tee last week, and arrived at by the
use of an old code of the department
of justice.

More telegrams exchanged be-
tween Edward B. McLean, publisher
of the Washington Post and his em-
ployees are being sought in the files
of the Western Union and Postal
Telegraph companies here, along
with messages received by or sent to
Albert B. Fall, E. L. Doherty, Harry
F. Sinclair and J. W. Zeverly. Sin-
clair's personal attorney, in addi-
tion, the committee has subpoenaed
telegrams from Fall, Sinclair, Zeverly,
Robert Stewart of the Standard
Oil Company of Indiana, and H. M.
Blackmer of the Midwest Refining
Company, on record between Janu-
ary 1, 1921 and March 1, 1924, at
Three Rivers, New Mexico, where
Fall's ranch is situated.

Meanwhile, the government's spe-
cial oil counsel are ready to initiate
court action in the lease cases this
week. The civil proceedings will be
under the direction chiefly of Atlee
Pomeroy, former senator from
Ohio, while Owen J. Roberts, of
Philadelphia, will devote his atten-
tion principally to matter requiring
action under criminal statutes.

William J. Burns, chief of the de-
partment's bureau of investigation,
will be questioned by the committee
tomorrow as to how employees of E.
B. McLean came into possession of
this code, and whether McLean is on
the roll of the special agents of the
bureau at a salary of \$1 a month.
Burns will also be asked about the
"Mary" code message sent to one of
McLean's confidential men at Palm
Beach in which reference was made
to Burns and the "McLean investi-
gation."

Mrs. Mary Duckstein, former pri-
vate secretary to Burns, and now an
operative in the justice department,
who sent the "Mary" telegram to
her husband, W. O. Duckstein, prob-
ably will follow Burns on the stand.
McLean may be called before the
committee before the end of Florida
week. He returned in response to a
summons, but unlike other persons
under subpoena he has not been
required to make daily appearance at
the hearings.

DAUGHERTY MESSAGE

MIAMI, Fla., March 3.—Attorney
General H. M. Daugherty, will
send a message to President Coolidge
late this afternoon, "which may
be considered important," he said at
the Nautilus Hotel here today. He
refused to divulge the nature of the
communication.

WASHINGTON, March 3.—White
House officials said today that Pres-
ident Coolidge did not intend to
comment on the declaration of
Frank A. Vanderlip yesterday that
the President had asked but not re-
ceived the resignation of Attorney
General Daugherty.

"That story repeatedly has been de-
nied by all of those in a position to
speak authoritatively."

GIRL—For office work. State experi-
ence and salary expected. "G. H." Care
News.

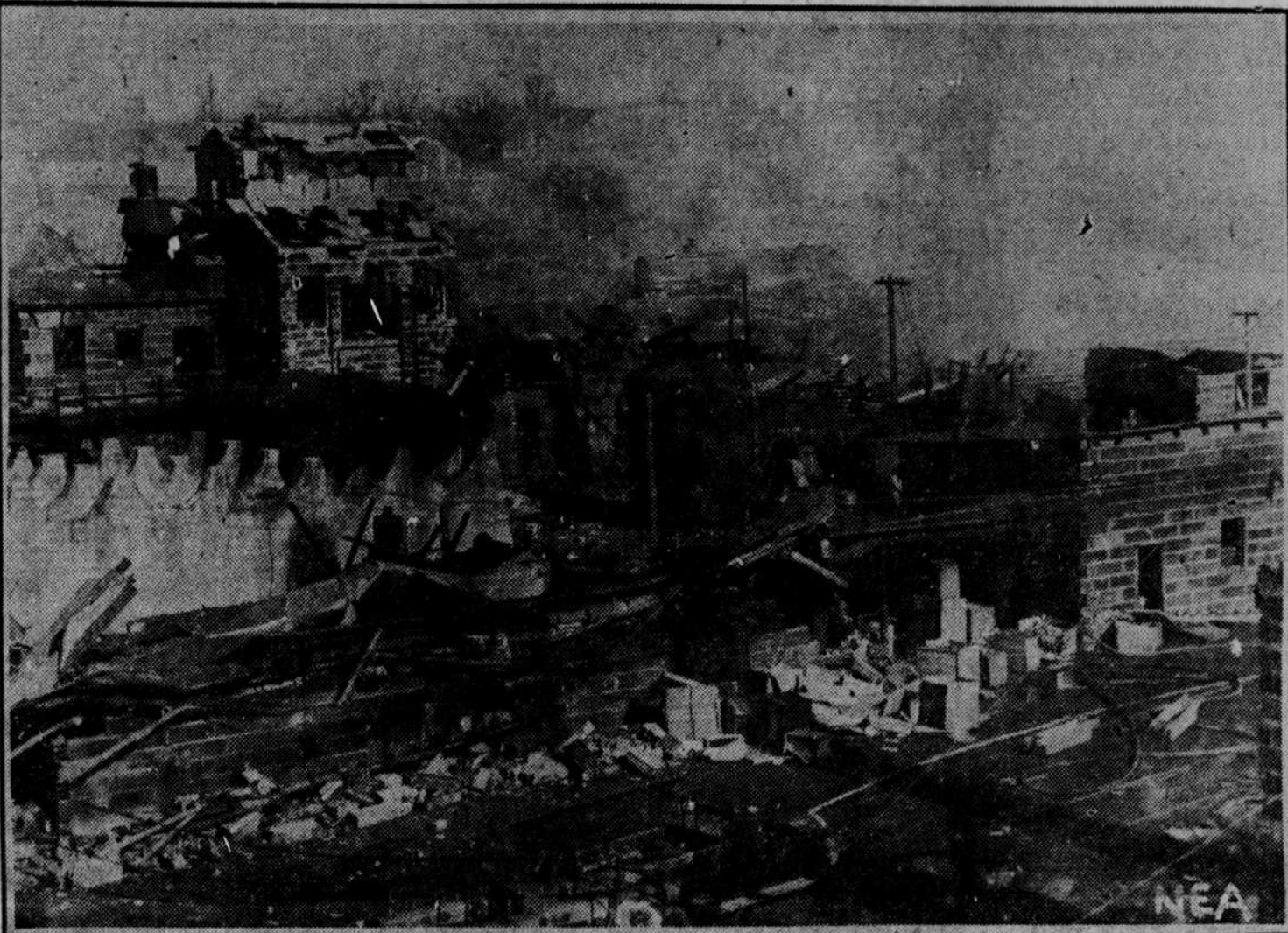
Members Mt. Zion Lodge No. 135
F. & A. M. and Sojourning Masons
Emergent communication of Mt. Zion
Lodge will be held, Wed. Mar. 5 at 1 p. m.
for the purpose of attending the funeral
of our late brother, Lester Spencer. Broth-
ers kindly make an effort to be present in
the lodge room at that time.

ENOS POURATT.
Master Mt. Zion Lodge, No. 135, F. & A. M.

NOTICE

All members of Silk Benefit
Society are requested to attend the meeting
in Woodmen's Hall on Robert
Street at 8 P. M. Election
of officers. Stated
MRS. IVER LARSEN,
Secretary.

General View Of Wrecked Nitration Plant



Almost two-score persons were killed and about a hundred injured when a terrific explosion wrecked the plant of the Nixon Nitration Works at Nixon. The concussion rocked houses within a radius of many miles and was heard as far as lower New York City and Brooklyn. Photo shows general view of the wreckage before the dust had settled. The explosion is believed to have started in the boiler room of the plant. All that remains of the boiler room is shown in foreground of picture.

ALDERMEN WILL MEET TONIGHT

Considering Request of the
School Board for \$125,000
to Complete New School

The regular semi-monthly meeting
of the Board of Aldermen will be
held tonight at city hall at which it
is likely a supplemental debt state-
ment will be ordered prepared in or-
der that the members of that board
and the Board of School Estimate
might know how much money is
available at this time. The school
board has asked for \$125,000 in or-
der that the new public school, No.
11, in Hall avenue might be com-
pleted at once. Alderman-at-Large
Richard J. Galvin told members of
the Board of School Estimate that
if this amount were advanced the
school board it would mean that "not
another nickel could be spent for
improvements here this year."

There has been no adjourned
meeting of the aldermen since their
last regular meeting and there is
considerable business to come before
the board tonight.

PUT OUT FIRE IN HALL; MUSICIANS NOT PAID

Something new was successfully
worked, on Saturday night it is al-
leged, when it came time for the
musicians to be paid at the dance
of the Dardanelle Boys of Prospect
street, in Frem Hall, Lehigh avenue.
According to the police reports some
one threw a pall of paint into the
furnace, causing the hall to be filled
with smoke and a passerby turned
in an alarm from box 3-3-4 at Stan-
ford street and Lehigh avenue. The
occurrence was investigated by Ser-
geant Kasprzak, Plainclothesman
Koyen and Officers Kurpiel and Ma-
son, but no arrests have been made
to date. The hall was damaged to
the extent of about \$50 by the
smoke. There were seven other
dances in various parts of this city
on Saturday night.

BOYS WANTED
Between nine and thirteen to sing in St.
Peter's Choir. A splendid opportunity to
receive musical instruction while being
paid.
Call or Phone
PARISH HOUSE
183 Hector Street
Tuesdays—4:15 P. M.
Thursdays—7:30 P. M.

Confesses Connection With Robbery Here

ELIZABETH, March 3.—Nick
Dallo, twenty year old Cleveland
man, returned here last night in
connection with the local holdups,
confessed by George Garrison, of
Prospect street, Perth Amboy, and
Fred Miller of New Brunswick, in
addition to admitting his part in
these jobs has made known that
he was one member of a gang of
three which visited a Perth Am-
boy saloon and held up the persons
present. About \$70 was obtained on
this job which is believed to have
been committed at 515 Smith street,
Cleveland in connection with the
death of his mother and he was ar-
rested there after the confessions
made by the Middlesex men follow-
ing their arrest by the local author-
ities in a sensational Saturday night
haul.

EXPECT FREEHOLDERS TO ACT IN POOR ROAD MATTER

Whether or not the Board of Free-
holders will take any action to have
the deplorable conditions in New
Brunswick avenue remedied when
they meet on Thursday could not be
learned today. This street which is
used almost exclusively by the traf-
fic going to and from New Brun-
swick has been torn up for the
Hopelawn sewer construction work
and although the dirt has been re-
placed it has been left piled so high
that only one side of the thorough-
fare can be used.

Efforts were made today to get in
touch with Freeholder Walter Quak-
enbush but he could not be located.
County Solicitor Frederick P. Rich-
ardson said that he did not accom-
pany the freeholders on their in-
spection trip Saturday and there-
fore could not say what action may
have taken place or is pending.

RECEIVERS NAMED

NEW YORK, March 3. — C. G.
Wilson, president of the Virginia-
Carolina Chemical Company, and
Arthur C. Vanderlip, today were
named receivers of the chemical con-
cern in a creditor's suit filed in the
United States district court for New
Jersey.

A MAN WITHOUT A COUNTRY IS NO WORSE
OFF THAN A MAN WITHOUT EXPLOSION
INSURANCE (IN THIS CITY.)

Margaretten & Lobel, Inc.

Raritan Building
Perth Amboy, N. J.
PHONE 900-901

FOR TAXATION COMMISSION

Joint Resolution for That Pur-
pose to Be Introduced
Today

TRENTON, March 3 (By The As-
sociated Press).—Senator Arthur
Whitney, Morris, chairman of the
senate committee on taxation today
made public a joint resolution to be
introduced in the senate, providing
for appointment of a commission to
report to the next legislature bills
and recommendations to improve
the system of assessment and taxa-
tion; and to provide for the super-
vision of public expenditures to the
end "that the burden of taxation may
be moderated and equitably distrib-
uted."

The commission would consist of
five members who would receive no
compensation for their services. Ex-
penses for clerical aid and traveling
expenses not to exceed \$10,000 would
be authorized.

Measures devised and drafted by
the commission would have the fol-
lowing objects: effective methods of
assessment; equalization of tax bur-
dens; a revised classification of the
personal property for taxation, or
the elimination of the personal prop-
erty tax and the substitution of a
more satisfactory tax; the elimina-
tion of the poll tax and the substi-
tution of an individual tax which
could be more equitably collected;
repeal of unnecessary legislation
compelling expenditures by counties
and municipalities; more limited re-
striction of the classes of property
exempted from taxation.

The commission would be author-
ized to consider the separation in
whole or in part of the sources of
state revenue; collection of taxes in
advance of expenditures and possi-
ble improvement in the system of
tax administration.

REPORTS WOMAN SLAPS FACE OF "DRY" AGENT

Prohibition men invaded North
Amboy on Saturday afternoon and
night, and as far as is known, were
unsuccessful in making any seizures.
It is reported that at one place
after searching a saloon and butcher
shop adjoining, they went to the
apartment above the saloon and
broke into a bathroom where a
young lady was making use of soap
and water. In this room one of the
agents was greeted with a slap in
the face by the bathtub occupant.

Laws Sustained
WASHINGTON, March 3.—State
laws prohibiting the possession of
intoxicating liquors acquired by a
national prohibition were sustained
by the supreme court.

DEATH LIST OF NIXON TRAGEDY 18; MANY MISSING AND HURT; FUNERALS ARE ARRANGED; PLAN STATE PROBE

Assistant Prosecutor John E. Toolan this morning began the in-
quiry into the case of Saturday morning's explosion and fire at the plant
of the Ammonite Company at Nixon which killed eighteen persons, in-
jured 100 and destroyed forty buildings. Two persons, still missing, are
believed to be dead and there are nineteen others still in New Brun-
swick hospitals.

While the inquiry was getting under way at New Brunswick, State
Senator Morgan F. Larson, of this city, was preparing for introduc-
tion in the state senate at Trenton today a joint resolution calling
upon the State Department of Labor to conduct an investigation into
the Nixon explosion. The joint resolution also provides for a state
wide investigation of plants manufacturing or using explosives with a
view to doing away with the storage of such dangerous materials in the
thickly populated parts of the state.

Investigation Started In Prosecutor's Office

Action to Fix Responsibility
for Explosion Is Now
Under Way in County

Assistant Prosecutor John E. Toolan, at a conference in the prosecu-
tor's office in New Brunswick at 10
o'clock today, began a formal in-
vestigation to fix the responsibility
for the explosion, which on Satur-
day morning destroyed the plant
of the Nixon Nitration Works and
the Ammonite Company at Nixon.
Today Mr. Toolan and a corps of
experts questioned Lewis and Stan-
hope Nixon, principal owners of the
Nixon Nitration plant; R. Norris
Shreve, president of the Ammonite
Company, and also the chief chemist
and consulting chemist of the latter
company.

In discussing the activities of the
prosecutor's office in connection with
the explosion today, Mr. Toolan said
that the office is desirous of having
all relatives of the dead and injured
communicate with the office, also
the plant are requested to get in
touch with the prosecutor's offices
and render assistance in completing
the investigation.

Although it is probable that the
real cause of the explosion will
never be known, two theories have
been advanced as to the probable
cause. One of these is that some
weeks ago the employees of the plant
are alleged to have been instructed
to make the powdered ammonite,
which was derived from the liquid,
of a coarser grade. Prior to this
the ammonite was about as
fine as flour. When this order came
through, it is said, it meant the
heating of the stuff to a higher de-
gree which in the case of any TNT re-
mained in the liquid, would have
a tendency to explode. The other
theory is that picric acid was being
collected at the plant in large quan-
tities, but neither of these theories
have been confirmed as yet.

The investigation now under way
is being carried on by the prosecu-
tor's office detectives and no outside
help will be employed. It will prob-
ably be some time before the in-
vestigation is completed as many
questions will be asked and former
employees and present employees of
the plant.

County Counsel Frederick F. Rich-
ardson today declared that no im-
mediate action will be taken by the
Board of Freeholders in the matter,
although there may be some discus-
sion concerning the explosion at the
meeting on Thursday. There is
chance of a further explosion of the
plant, Mr. Richardson said, and
therefore the board will take no
undue hasty action, but will await
the report of the official investiga-
tion, now being conducted by the
prosecutor's office. The Nixon Ni-
tration Works has never been classed
the same as the Raritan Arsenal
and Morgan plants of the govern-
ment by the board, Mr. Richardson
said. The boardholders will take no
positive action until the true facts
are obtained.

CARD OF THANKS
We, the undersigned, wish to thank all
our relatives, friends and neighbors for
their kind sympathy and beautiful floral
pieces. Especially wish to thank Pro-
tection Fire Co. No. 1, Macabeek, Jersey
Town, N. J. and Ladies' Auxiliary of
Knashville Fire Co. Dr. Urbanski, Father
Larkin and Undertaker Burke for service
rendered in our time of sorrow and
death of our dear son and brother,
MR. AND MRS. WILLIAM J. BERT-
RAM.
JOHN BERTRAM,
GEORGE BERTRAM
1920-2-2-11

REVISED LIST OF DEAD, INJURED AND MISSING

DEAD
ADAMS, JOSEPH, carpenter's help-
er, of Highland Park.
DUMAS, MRS. ARTHUR, and three
children of Nixon.
FITZGERALD, JOHN, tinsmith, of
Perth Amboy.

GROTTO (first name unknown).
HAGEN, HUGO, boss carpenter of
the Ammonite Company, of Lin-
denau.
MAZARAS, JOHN.
MESEIGE, JOHN, blacksmith at
Nixon plant, of New Brunswick.
ROCKEFELLER, MISS RUTH,
stenographer at Ammonite Com-
pany, of Nixon.
SCALLO, FRANK, boss pipe fitter
for Ammonite Company, of Nixon.
SELENCKER, LENA, stenographer
at Nixon plant, of Highland Park.
SLADE, HAROLD, of Menlo Park.
SMITH, E. L., manager of Ammonite
Company, of Metuchen.
SPENCER, LESTER, foreman of
Ammonite Company, Metuchen.
STARKINS, EDWARD, mechanic
for Nixon Company, of Lindenau.
WHERRY, MRS. R. J., stenograph-
er, of Morgan.

MISSING

CROFTON, R. E.
COLES, ARTHUR.

IN HOSPITALS

BENNETT, RAYMOND, of Lin-
denau, condition serious.
KELLY, THOMAS, of New Brun-
swick, condition serious.
BUBNIS, GEORGE, of New Brun-
swick, left eyeball burned.
GEORGE, STEVEN, of Highland
Park, broken leg.
PFELFER, LESTER, of Piscataway,
fractured arm.
BAILEY, CLARENCE, of New
Brunswick, sprained back.
BAKER, CHARLES, of Piscataway,
condition serious.
BRENNAN, MICHAEL, of New
Brunswick, injuries to head, back
and hips.
CASSIDY, CHARLES, of New
Brunswick, injuries to head and
back.
CATTLETT, FITZHUGH, of New
Brunswick, burnt arm and eye.
DELBASCO, FRED, of New Brun-
swick, injuries to head and body.
KOVAKS, MICHAEL, left hand and
foot crushed.
LEMON, ELIZABETH, of New
Brunswick, eye cut.
OSTROVITCH, PAUL, of Lindenau,
eye burned.
PARETTE, JOHN, of New Brun-
swick, burns on face and hands.
TERENTOLA, DANIEL, 72 Mad-
ison avenue, Highland Park.
SODOLSKI, JOHN, Ford.
VAN KIRK, PAUL V., Highland
Park.
WISSLER, HARLEY.

IN MEMORIAM
In sad and loving memory of our Grand-
son and Nephew, Thomas Russell Vich,
who died March 3, 1923.
It was Jesus came that morning
and with himself the demolition
And from amongst the sweetest
Those that dear little boy of ours,
Inspired by his Grandmother and Aunt,
Mrs. Chas. Dickson.
1923-3-3-11

The investigation by the prosecu-
tor's office into the cause of the
catastrophe was officially started
this morning when Louis Nixon,
former Public Service Commis-
sioner in New York and president
of the Nixon Nitration Company,
appeared at the prosecutor's office
to answer questions put to him by
Assistant Prosecutor Toolan. Nixon
was accompanied by his son,
E. Watson, of New Brunswick, his
attorney.

R. Norris Shreve, of East Orange,
president of the Ammonite Com-
pany, accompanied by J. H. Thayer-
Martin, of Woodbridge, his attorney,
also was questioned this morn-
ing by the assistant prosecutor. Rec-
ords and company books, not de-
stroyed by the fire, were sent to
the prosecutor's office and results of
laboratory tests made at the Am-
monite plant were turned over to
Assistant Prosecutor Toolan.

The inquiry into the cause of the
explosion will be conducted along
lines similar to any criminal investi-
gation and it is not likely that any
public hearing will be held in con-
nection with the investigation.

The regular session of the Middle-
sex county grand jury will also be
held today and it is not known as
yet whether Assistant Prosecutor
Toolan will have secured sufficient
data to place the case before the
grand jury at that time. Saturday
morning when the explosion oc-
curred.

Testimony of army officers at Rar-
itan Arsenal, of survivors and of
early rescue workers will also be
taken by the prosecutor's office. The
inquiry was called to determine the
cause of the disaster and fix respon-
sibility.

Owing to the investigation being
conducted by the prosecutor's office
the Board of Freeholders has an-
nounced that it will not conduct a
probe into the catastrophe, believing
that the inquiry now under way will
produce the desired results.

Mayor William C. Wilson, of this
city, who sent two local fire com-
panies to Nixon Saturday morning
and was himself at the demolition
plant shortly after noon, this morn-
ing said he had decided to communi-
cate with the mayors of the
various municipalities in this
county would join with him in his
action in drawing up the joint resolu-
tion bearing upon explosions. The
mayor informed the senator that any
inquiry into the cause of the disaster
would be welcomed by the people in this
city who live in terror, not know-
ing when another explosion is to
occur.

Major A. S. Casad, in command of
Raritan Arsenal, said yesterday
that he believed the explosion was
due to conditions in the Ammonite
plant rather than to any possible
failure to separate TNT at the arse-
nal from the ammonium nitrate
which was eventually sent in tanks
to the fertilizer factory of the Am-
monite Company.

More than 20,000 sightseers view-
ed the devastated premises yester-
day. The heat of the debris and
(Continued on Page 2)

NOTICE

FRED P. HANSEN
REAL ESTATE, INSURANCE
Office Formerly Located in Dana Building
Now Located in
RARIAN BUILDING ROOM
Phone 1211